

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney greatly appreciates the courtesy extended by Examiner Tamai during the course of an interview conducted on March 12, 2003 and Examiner Tamai's careful consideration of the arguments presented during the interview.

In response to the Official Action dated February 20, 2003, Applicants amend the application and requests reconsideration. In the Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 10 have been amended, and claims 2 and 14-19 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Claims 1 and 3-13 are now pending and under examination.

In the interview, Examiner Tamai suggested that claim 2 be amended to replace the language "assigned to" with "radially aligned with." Applicants have adopted this suggestion. In addition, Applicants have cancelled claim 2 and incorporated the subject matter of claim 2 into claim 1.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing the stator or carrier. Applicants have amended Figure 1 to show the stator (13) and the stator housing (14). Approval of the drawing corrections is respectfully requested.

Proposed drawing corrections, filed with the previous response, was disapproved for introducing new matter. In the interview, the Examiner stated that the alleged new matter is that the corrected drawings show each "additional indentation" at a crest of the profiled contact surface. The Examiner stated that the specification does not describe each "additional indentation" at a crest of the profiled contact surface. Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings merely show that the additional indentations are provided in the profiled contact surface, and that the additional indentations are at the crests of the profiled contact surface are merely coincidental. In addition, the feature cannot be new matter because the specification does not describe the feature and therefore it is not a feature of the described invention. Furthermore, if this could be considered

as new matter, then the drawings probably could never be amended to show a claimed feature, because the verbal description in the specification and the graphic description in the drawings can almost never be coextensive. The graphic description can almost always be interpreted to include something more than the verbal description. Unless Applicants are provided with the statutory or case law that supports this objection, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection, and entry of the corrected drawings.

The amendment filed on December 18, 2002 was objected under 35 U.S.C. 132 for allegedly introducing new matter. According to the Office Action, the alleged new matter is additional indentations as a part of the wave profile. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection. First, the amendment shows that the additional indentations are on the profiled contact surface, which according to the specification has a wave profile. Therefore, the feature that the additional indentations are on the wave profile is not new matter, because, as described in the specification, the profiled contact surface has a wave profile, and the additional indentations are provided on the profile contact surface and therefore on the wave profile (see page 7, lines 11-16).

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are directed to a machine and therefore are apparatus claims. Applicants are not aware of any statutory or case law, which states that languages like "caused by plastic deformation" and "form locking contact is achieved" render claims indefinite.

Claims 1-4 and 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by, or under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over, *Swartz* (U.S. Patent 3,477,125). Claims 1-4 and 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by, or under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over, *Spreen* (U.S. Patent 1,688,891). Claims 5-8 were rejected

under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Swartz* in view of *Day* (U.S. Patent 5,306,123). Claims 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Swartz* and *West* (U.S. Patent 4,471,252). Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Spreen* in view of *Day*. Claims 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Spreen* and *West*.

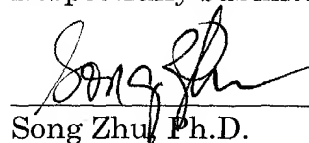
As discussed in the interview, the cited references don't teach or suggest the feature that a surface-enlarging wave crest is radially aligned with each longitudinal groove. Since this feature is now recited in amended claim 1, amended claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. Consequently, claims 3-13, which depend from claim 1, are also patentable over the cited references.

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #951/48969).

Respectfully submitted,

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